

PEST MANAGEMENT GRANTS FINAL REPORT

Contract Number: #99-0210

Contract Title: Reduced Risk Vineyard Practices-Demonstration and Outreach by the Central Coast Vineyard Team

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Contract Organization: Central Coast Vineyard Team

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DISCLAIMER

The statements and conclusions in this report are those of the contractor and not necessarily those of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. The mention of commercial products, their source, or their use in connection with material reported herein is not to be construed as actual or implied endorsement of such products.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Project coordinator would like to thank several people for their continued commitment to CCVT's work on the Central Coast.

Meeting Host Growers: Dave Corey, Patty McLain, Scott Williams, Pebble Smith, John Crossland, Daryl Salm, Kelly McFarland, Craig Macmillan, Bob Thomas, Don Ackerman, Steve McIntyre, Roger Moitoso, Neil Roberts, and Kevin Merrill. Without their willingness to share their time, facilities, equipment and expertise, CCVT would not have an outreach and education program.

Technical Advisors: Larry Bettiga (UCCE), Mary Bianchi (UCCE), Janet Broome (UCSAREP). These individuals have participated with CCVT for five years. They participate with CCVT's outreach program in addition to providing valuable input regarding direction, topics, and technical issues.

Cooperating Growers: This group is too large acknowledge individually. Special thanks to growers who continue to participate in the Positive Points System process. They represent the foundation of this innovative program.

CCVT Members: Paid membership to the Central Coast Vineyard Team continues to increase and expand. Financial support from local industry is critical for the group's long-term success.

Local Industry Organizations: Thanks to the California Association of Winegrape Growers, Monterey County Vintners and Growers Association, Paso Robles Vintners and Growers Association and the Central Coast Winegrowers Association. Each organization cooperates fully with CCVT in advertising and participating with various aspects of this project. Their participation promotes greater attendance at each of the meetings and allows CCVT to reach a greater audience.

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ABSTRACT

The Central Coast Vineyard Team used the Positive Points System as a foundation for demonstrating sustainable vineyard practices. Growers in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Monterey County demonstrated reduced risk practices regarding pest, canopy, floor, and sulfur management through quarterly Tailgate Meetings in the vineyard. Twelve tailgate meetings were held throughout the year – over 30,000 acres was represented by those attending each of the meetings. More than 1,800 people were reached through members giving presentations at industry meetings throughout the state. Quarterly newsletters were distributed to 2,400 recipients. Feedback from the meetings were excellent – many growers indicated that they would change a practice as a result of the demonstrations.

The Positive Points System was used to document changes in sustainable practices. 46 evaluations were completed; 8 were growers completing their first evaluation, 38 were growers completing an evaluation for more than one year. Average scores continue to increase, indicating that growers are incorporating new reduced risk practices. PPS data continues to indicate that soil and water scores are weaker than other categories. Outreach and education is being targeted to these areas. A database consultant developed a customized database for PPS submission. As the program is expanded to meet CCVT's expanded needs, analysis of historical data will be facilitated

CCVT continues to be an important and influential group for demonstrating and extending grower-to-grower information regarding reduced risk practices. Scores indicate that practices are improving. And attendance at CCVT events indicates that the message is pertinent and useful. Nevertheless, a pesticide use analysis component of this project would be valuable to determine potential correlation between PPS score and pesticide use.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Central Coast Vineyard Team (CCVT) is a grower group whose mission is to promote sustainable vineyard practices on the Central Coast. CCVT members own or manage over 30,000 acres of Central Coast winegrapes.

CCVT developed the Positive Points System (PPS) that represents a model vineyard that integrates soil, water, pest, and viticultural practices. The PPS vineyard is less dependent on chemical inputs since it relies on balanced biological systems. The PPS promotes voluntary adoption of reduced risk pest management systems. While previous work focused on refining the PPS as an assessment tool, this project uses the tool as a foundation for demonstration and outreach that will target a significant number of growers on the Central Coast.

The objectives are as follows:

- Obj. 1. Demonstrate reduced risk practices being successfully used by local growers.
- Obj. 2. Disseminate information to growers regarding reduced risk practices used on the Central Coast.
- Obj. 3. Document changes in sustainable practices used in Central Coast Vineyards.

Obj. 1. CCVT demonstrated reduced risk practices primarily through regional tailgate meetings. CCVT conducted quarterly tailgate meetings in Monterey, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara Counties. Meeting topics included several reduced risk management practices: pests, floor, canopy, and sulfur management. Over 500 people attended these Tailgate Meetings. On average, 33,750 acres of winegrapes were represented at each group of meetings. Handouts were developed for each of these meetings. In addition, CCVT demonstrated reduced risk practices through participating with local industry Technical Tours.

Obj. 2. CCVT disseminated information to growers through several means. CCVT developed and distributed newsletters to 500 individuals in February, May, August, and January. Newsletters included information on grower testimonials, resources, and events. In addition, CCVT published information in local industry publications (PRVGA Newsletter, Vintages Magazine) and in a national industry publication (Practical Winery and Vineyard). PI, growers, and technical advisors participated in educational events throughout the year. These events involved approximately 1,835 participants. CCVT educational materials are also published on the website (www.vineyardteam.org).

Obj. 3. CCVT used the Positive Points System to evaluate adoption of reduced risk practices. Evaluations were collected, and the data was analyzed. CCVT contracted with a database consultant to develop a custom database to facilitate completion, submission, and analysis of PPS data.

This report clearly indicates the success and effectiveness of CCVT outreach, education, and demonstration activities.

The strength of this project lies in several areas:

- 1. Grower-to-grower outreach methods
- 2. Broad partnership represented by CCVT (growers, researchers, PCA's, consultants, UC personnel)
- 3. History of partnership, accomplishment and collaboration
- 4. Built in means of determining success through the Positive Points System

FINAL REPORT

Introduction

The Central Coast Vineyard Team is a non-profit grower group whose mission is to promote sustainable vineyard practices. This project used their award-winning Positive Points System as a basis for demonstration in Central Coast vineyards. This project addressed several priority areas: alternatives to highly toxic pesticides, protection of surface and ground water quality, reduce worker exposure to pesticides. These demonstrations occurred in Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Monterey Counties via tailgate meetings addressing pest management, cover crops, canopy management, and sulfur use.

Template growers were also identified in each county. The practices of these growers are demonstrated through various means: tailgate meetings, newsletters, and participation in industry meetings.

The outreach and education component of this project was achieved through several means: quarterly newsletters, website tutorials, industry presentations, and published articles. CCVT continues to pursue an aggressive outreach schedule.

In addition, this project measured the adoption of sustainable practices through the Positive Points System. This year, several new growers participated with the program and several previous growers scored their block for multiple years. Results indicate that there is an increase in adoption of reduced risk practices.

Results

Project Objectives and Associated Tasks

CCVT successfully completed each of this project's objectives.

Obj. 1. Demonstrate reduced risk practices being successfully used by local growers.

- 1.1. Conduct Quarterly Tailgate Meetings in each county at a "Host Grower" Farm. To date, CCVT has conducted 12 tailgate meetings on four topics. Each meeting topic was addressed in each county (Table 1). Attendance and participation from these meetings was outstanding (Table 2). On average, 33,750 acres were represented at each group of meetings. Utilizing local industry organizations to help advertise meetings was an extremely effective method and attracted new growers to CCVT events. Each meeting had new growers to CCVT and growers who had previously participated in CCVT activities. This shows the ability of CCVT to attract and retain growers to its program. Each meeting covered a variety of Positive Points System practices within each meeting topic (Table 3).

Table 1. Topic, Location and Date of CCVT Tailgate Meetings

Tailgate Meeting Topic	Location	Dates
Reduced Risk Pest Management	Los Alamos (SB County)	April 10
	Edna Valley (SLO County)	April 11
	Greenfield (M County)	April 12
Reduced Risk Floor Management	Soledad (M County)	June 13
	Santa Ynez (SB County)	June 14
	Paso Robles (SLO County)	June 15
Reduced Risk Canopy Management	Soledad (M County)	August 8
	Santa Maria (SB County)	August 15
	Paso Robles (SLO County)	August 18
Reduced Risk Sulfur Management	Paso Robles (SLO County)	February 16
	Santa Ynez (SB County)	February 22
	Greenfield (M County)	February 23

Table 2. Attendance Statistics for the Tailgate Meetings

Topic	County	Total No. of Attendees *	Type of Attendee				Acres Represented
			Mgr/ Grower	PCA	Other	Non-trad. **	
Pest Mgt	M	20	5	5	2	4	12,000 +
	SB	30	10	9	15	5	15,000 +
	SLO	19	8	3	3	4	12,000 +
	Subtotal	69	23	17	20	13	39,000 +
Floor Mgt	M	25	14	4	5	3	33,000 +
	SB	20	8	2	10	4	6,000 +
	SLO	82	62	10	10	11	11,000 +
	Subtotal	127	84	16	25	18	49,000 +
Canopy Mgt	M	25	18	2	2	0	17,000 +
	SB	22	20	3	1	3	7,000 +
	SLO	86	75	5	5	15	15,000 +
	Subtotal	133	113	10	8	18	39,000 +
Sulfur Mgt	M	16	No data				16,000 +
	SB	75					12,000 +
	SLO	90					10,000 (est)
	Subtotal	181					38,000 +
All Meetings	TOTAL	510	220 +	43 +	53 +	86	165,000

* Not all attendees filled out each section of the sign in sheet. The breakdown of attendees and acreage is approximate. In addition, some attendees represented more than one category (PCA and Grower).

** Approximate number of females and/or member of Hispanic ethnic group.

Table 3. Reduced Risk Practices Discussed at Tailgate Meetings

Topic	Positive Points System Practices Discussed
Pest	pheromone trapping, field monitoring, record keeping, degree-day models for tortrix and mildew, mealybug-ant relationships, beneficial insect identification, use of low volume applicators, pest thresholds, spot spraying, appropriate timing based on pest and materials
Floor	attributes of various cover crop species, cover cropping seed, planting methods, strategies for erosion control, mowing techniques to select species, patchen weed seeker technology, species diversity for insectory benefits, control methods for problem species, nutrient aspects of cover crop strategies, spot spraying, appropriate timing based on specie and material
Canopy	canopy manipulation for opening canopy, low volume application methods, matching canopy with site for vine balance, rotating materials for resistance management, weather models for timing, spot spraying techniques, increasing air flow in canopy to reduce disease incidence
Sulfur	Equipment calibration, weather models, knowledge of disease complex, monitoring, alternative materials, training, communication, record keeping, leaf pulling, shoot thinning, vine balance, timing

- 1.2. Establish "Template Farms" in each county. To date, template farms have been established in San Luis Obispo County, Santa Barbara, and Monterey Counties. An extensive article regarding CCVT and its first Template Farmer was published in *Practical Winery and Vineyard* in the July/August issue (see Attachment). Each template farmer has hosted tailgate meetings, participated in CCVT functions, completed PPS evaluations, and is willing to provide information to the group and other farmers. Template farm size ranges from 17 to 2,000 acres. Articles about these growers will be distributed in upcoming publications and newsletters. In the future, CCVT would like to gather data regarding pesticide use for these grower and correlate with their PPS score. These types of analyses can be very expensive, though, and CCVT would need technical and financial support for a project like this. CCVT committee members have begun a process of determining further template farms. Interested growers would apply and have to meet a certain standard with regards to practices

and willingness to share. A "verification" committee of growers, non-growers, and cooperative extension is being formed, and the standards developed.

Grower	Vineyard	County	Acre	Highlight of Important Practices
Pebble Smith	James Berry Vineyards	San Luis Obispo	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ No till, permanent cover crop ♦ No insecticide for 20 yrs ♦ Diverse beneficial insect pop. ♦ Soil monitoring, irrigation monitoring ♦ Weather station, disease model ♦ Canopy management, balance vines ♦ Diverse landscape maintained around vineyard
Craig Macmillan	Royal Oaks Vineyard	Santa Barbara	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Permanent cover crop ♦ Vegetative buffer strips ♦ Diverse insect population ♦ Low risk, reduced rate materials ♦ No insecticides ♦ Material rotation, equipment calibration ♦ Vigilant monitoring, record keeping, "scout" training ♦ Balance vines, holistic approach
Kelly McFarland	IVV Carmel	Monterey	2,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Aggressive soil building program ♦ Innovative solutions ♦ No herbicides—mechanical weed control ♦ Organic blocks ♦ Experiment with buried drip ♦ Virtually no chemical insect treatments

- 1.3. Coordinate with other grower groups to use a CCVT grower as a stop in their "Tech Tours". On June 28, CCVT cooperated with the Central Coast Wine Growers Association (CCWGA) with their annual Technical Tour. Three CCVT Cooperating Growers participated with the tour and gave presentations at their vineyards. In addition, PI gave a presentation at the end of the tour and handed out materials. CCVT Technical advisors also presented information about disease forecasting and the PPS at a Community Alliance of Family Farmer meeting.
- 1.4. Document use of reduced risk practices being used on the Central Coast (via on-site visits). CCVT hired a student from the Cal Poly Viticulture Program to assist PI. The intern interviewed Tailgate Meeting host growers about their reduced risk practices. Intern also took photographs at each vineyard. These grower testimonials were used for Tailgate Meeting handouts, newsletters, presentation, and website.
- 1.5. Conduct management meetings and "Forums" to address practices, special issues and/or planning strategies. On June 8, CCVT hosted a Forum in Paso Robles. This meeting was divided into two parts: business meeting and special issue. Jeff Mitchell, UC Researcher, made a presentation entitled, "Alternative Methods for Assessing Soil Quality: Considering Chemical, Physical and Biological Indicators." Attendees included core members from the CCVT management team, technical advisors, CCVT officers, and other CCVT growers. Attendance for the special presentation was 48. On August 16, a management team meeting was held in Los Alamos. CCVT management team, technical advisors, and PI were present to discuss and plan CCVT outreach and educational activities. On November 8, a business meeting was held in Paso Robles. Approximately 40 growers attended. In addition, PPS revision, activities and budget committees have met throughout the year. On February 21, a forum was held in Soledad. A special presentation regarding cover crop trials and demonstrations was given by Lynne Dee Althouse, Ph.D.c. Attendance was approximately 20.

Obj. 2. Disseminate information regarding reduced risk practices to winegrape growers.

- 2.1 Develop and distribute quarterly newsletters to growers. CCVT Executive Director and intern planned, developed and distributed CCVT newsletters in February, May, August, and January. The 6-page newsletter contains information about grower testimonials, resources, and events. Newsletters are mailed to more than 500 recipients each mailing and are also used as handouts for other events. Newsletters are currently black and white and photocopied. Eventually, CCVT would like to improve the newsletters by having them printed on higher quality paper.
- 2.2 Distribute inserts in other grower group's newsletters. In June, CCVT published an article in the Paso Robles Vintners and Growers Association newsletter. This publication reached 650 people. In addition, CCVT is working with the Central Coast Wine Growers Association to contribute material for their newsletter.
- 2.3 Publish articles in industry publications. CCVT contributed and edited an article published in the July/August Issue of Practical Winery and Vineyard. This article was entitled, "Grower's resource for sustainable farming" and contained information on James Berry Vineyards (Template Vineyard) and CCVT. In addition, CCVT published an article in Vintages Magazine in June. As a result of both of these articles, CCVT received several calls from interested growers and parties, both in and out of the Central Coast region.
- 2.4 Give presentations at various forums. CCVT participated with several educational activities throughout the year (Table 4). These events involved approximately 1,835 participants. Demand for CCVT information has significantly increased this year, both in and out of the Central Coast region. Presentations are given by the PI, CCVT growers, or CCVT technical advisors. This continues to be a significant source of interest in CCVT. The Team continues to provide information and materials to winegrape growers and organizations outside of the region. Several regions have committed to implementing PPS evaluations as a result of CCVT's outreach (Amador, Lake, Mendocino, Nevada, and Solano Counties). In addition, a citrus farm advisor in the San Joaquin Valley is seeking funding to adapt the Positive Points System to citrus. CCVT will cooperate and assist with the process to facilitate their efforts.

Table 4. CCVT Participation in Various Educational Events

Date	Location	Type of Participation	Attendees *
March 6	Cal Poly Viticulture Class	Presentations and Handouts	100
March 7	Western Region SARE conference, Portland, Oregon	2 slide show presentations on PPS by grower member and technical advisor	60
March 29	Sustainable Winegrape Seminar	CCVT Provided Grower Speakers, CCVT Presentation, Handouts	150
April 8	Lake County Grape Day	Presentation and Handouts	100
April 15	Santa Barbara Vintners Association Wine Festival	Educational Table, Handouts	?
April 17	National Watershed Outreach Conference, San Diego, CA.	Slide show on "Ways to Deliver Your Message - Eco Labeling"	60
May 4, 5	CSU Fresno/Hancock College Viticulture Conference	Presentation, Educational Table, Handouts	200
May 10	Cal Poly Viticulture Class	Presentation and Handouts	50
May 12	CCWGA Grower Banquet	Presentation	50
May 14	Paso Robles Wine Festival	Educational Table and Handouts	?
June 1	R. Mondavi Growers Seminar	Presentation and Handouts	75
July 7	PRVGA Soils Seminar	Coordinated and made Presentation	100
July 10	Beringer Wine Estates Grower Lunch	Presentation and Handouts	100
July 12	Ag Commissioner Glassy Winged Sharpshooter/Pierces Disease Meeting	Participated in discussion, presented handouts	50
July 14	RWQCB Vineyard Tour	Conducted Tour, Handouts	12

July 27	CCWGA Outreach Tour	Presentation and Handouts	75
August 4	California Mid State Fair	Educational Table and Handouts	?
August 17	Eco-Winegrowing Conference, Ukiah, CA.	Sustainable Winegrowing in California, including the 1000 PPS and Biologically Integrated Farming Systems	130
Sept. 7	Santa Barbara NRCS Workgroup	Presentation and Handouts	12
Sept. 20	Lower Salinas RCD Workgroup	Presentation and Handouts	20
Nov 1	Nevada County Growers Assoc.	Presentation and Handouts	50
Nov 7	PRVGA Tour	Presentation, Coordination, Handouts	100
Dec 1	Paso Robles Grape Expo	Table, Handouts	200
Dec 6	CCWGA Tour	Presentation, Handouts	80
Jan 30	South SLO County Rotary	Presentation, Handouts	50
<i>Approximate Totals</i>			1,835

* Number of attendees is approximate. CCVT did not maintain sign in sheets at these meetings.

- 2.5 Update CCVT website with information from Tailgate Meetings, newsletters, and testimonials and develop interactive tutorials. Text and photos from Tailgate Meetings, grower testimonials, and newsletters were posted on the website (www.vineyardteam.org). CCVT collaborated with Cal Poly students to develop a pilot interactive module for the website. The first module includes questions regarding cover crops and nitrogen management. CCVT eventually wants to develop a pest management interactive module. The website is another means for growers to contact CCVT—several interested growers have contacted CCVT through the website.

Obj. 3. Document changes in sustainable practices used in Central Coast Vineyards.

- 3.1 Use the Positive Points System to continue to evaluate blocks. Due to the PPS revision and database work, PPS evaluations occurred later than normal. Ideally, it would be best to complete the evaluations on an ongoing basis. But since the protocol was undergoing a revision and the database work was not completed in fall, completing and collecting evaluations occurred early 2001.

Several new questions were incorporated into the Positive Points System as a result of several revision meetings and input from technical advisors and growers. Much discussion occurred regarding the point value, location, and wording for each question. These questions address issues surrounding non-point source pollution, habitat and diversity, and recycling. The following are the new questions added to the 2000 Revision of the PPS.

- 5 points 2. Are management techniques in place for control of sediments carried by any irrigation or rainfall run off into neighboring farmland or natural waterways (i.e. grassed waterways, filter strips, sediment ponds)?
- 5 points 5. Were your existing oak habitat, riparian areas and other natural habitat taken into consideration when developing vineyard sites?
- 5 points 6. Did you consult with your local agencies (i.e. NRCS, RCD, UCCE, or county planning department) and develop a conservation plan?
- 5 points 8. Do you educate and enforce your employees to recycle all that you can from your farm operation (i.e. steel and oil from the shop, paper and plastic from the office, etc.)?

- 3.2 Analyze data to determine trends and issues. 46 evaluations were completed this year. Of these, 38 were "repeat" evaluations and 8 were new growers. Some continuing growers evaluated additional blocks.

Average Positive Points System scores continue to increase each year (Table 5). The data indicate that soil continues to be a weaker category for most growers. CCVT will continue to address these issues identified through the evaluation process through the outreach and education portion of the program.

Table 5. Average PPS scores by category

	Pest	Soil	Water	Viticulture	Wine Quality	Contin. Ed.	Total
2000	157	146	167	169	92	89	821
1999	167	145	164	166	92	90	819
1998	165	153	157	163	90	88	817
1997	162	146	156	159	92	87	802
1996	148	132	156	145	89	81	751

- 3.3 Develop a database to facilitate submission and analysis of PPS Data. CCVT hired a database consultant for this project. Although there were several challenges and difficulties with developing the database (CCVT changed consultants in the middle of the project), the initial development of the database is complete. CCVT staff needs additional training in Access to fully utilize the new database. Appendix IV contains data entry forms and data analysis output from the customized CCVT database. At this point, the database needs to be expanded to include historical data to maximize its usefulness. CCVT is pursuing additional database work and training using this tool.

Discussion

There are several tools used to evaluate this project.

1. Attendance Statistics for Meetings and Events. Sign in sheets are provided at tailgate meetings. Information regarding acreage, affiliation, etc. is called for on these sheets. Attendance statistics and acreage represented at the tailgate meetings and other educational activities have been outstanding. This is an important indicator of the project's success, and results indicate a project that is reaching significant acreage, growers, and PCA's. In addition, CCVT is connecting with various PCA organizations in hope of sharing information at their meetings on the Central Coast.
2. Meeting Evaluations from Attendees. Meeting participants are encouraged to complete a brief evaluation form after each tailgate meeting. Feedback from these evaluations is extremely positive. Evaluations suggest that the information is pertinent, relevant, and interesting. CCVT is modifying the current evaluation form to request information regarding changing practices. See Appendix for summaries of meeting evaluations.
3. Positive Points System Evaluations. Results from the Positive Points System evaluations indicate the change in adoption of reduced risk practices used in vineyards. This tool will be the most important method for determining the project's success because it reflects the actual practices that growers use in the field. Improving the database, therefore improving CCVT's analytical capabilities with the PPS, will allow the PI to learn more useful information from the PPS evaluations. CCVT is gathering information from growers as to what information would be helpful to them. As a result of this, CCVT is developing reports to provide growers regarding their PPS data (see Appendix for template forms). As the database capabilities are expanded, CCVT will be able to explore reasons behind score changes.

Summary and Conclusions

CCVT demonstrations at the quarterly Tailgate Meetings reached over 500 people representing more than 100,000 acres of winegrapes. At each meeting, both new and returning growers attended the meetings. This indicates CCVT's ability to attract and retain growers to its program. Attendee feedback via evaluation forms was outstanding. CCVT will continue to offer these demonstrations in the future to address the strong need for grower-to-grower demonstration and education.

Several growers have approached the project PI regarding information that they learned at a tailgate meeting. For example, one grower indicated that they began using compost after attending the compost meeting in 1999. They indicated that they would have probably used compost eventually, but that the information presented at the meeting helped them make an informed decision sooner, thereby allowing them to change a practice sooner. PI will begin requesting similar information through the newsletter and will begin documenting changes in practices as a direct result of CCVT's demonstration. The evaluation form has been modified to ask for specific information regarding possible changed practices as a result of

the demonstrations. So far, comments indicate that growers will change a practice as a result of the meeting. This information will be more easily tracked with the new forms.

Positive Points System evaluation scores continues to increase. This indicates that growers are continuing to adopt more reduced risk, sustainable practices. New growers continue to participate in the self-evaluation process and repeat growers continue to participate. To date, more than 200 evaluations have been completed – each year new growers from each Central Coast County become involved with the self-evaluation process.

In addition, CCVT will explore new possibilities to increase PPS participation in the future. CCVT is exploring the possibility of providing incentives to continuing growers and workshops for 1st time growers to help facilitate the PPS completion process. Since the PPS is the foundation of all of CCVT's activities, expanding participation is critical. By expanding the database capabilities this year, growers will receive more helpful information regarding their specific practices.

Local and statewide outreach through industry meetings, presentations, newsletters and the website has reached over 3,200 people. CCVT continues to be considered an industry leader by its peers and continues to participate in various coalitions (i.e., the Pest Management Alliance, Wine Institute sustainability program, and Central Coast community forums).

Overall, CCVT is extremely satisfied with the continued expansion of the program. The number of growers affected by this demonstration program is outstanding, as indicated by the attendance figures. In addition, several regions and commodities continue to show interest in using the PPS or adapting it for their area. A farm advisor in the San Joaquin Valley is pursuing adapting the PPS for citrus. Another farm advisor in Los Angeles is going to adapt it for landscape professionals. Winegrape growers in Lake, Amador, and Nevada Counties are in the beginning process of using the PPS as an evaluation tool.

Not only is CCVT continuing its aggressive grass roots outreach campaign, CCVT looks forward to planning and conducting a major educational meeting this fall. This will be part of an overall program to enhance the educational program on the Central Coast.

APPENDICES

I List of Publications Produced

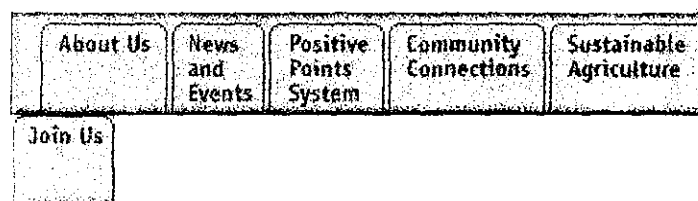
- CCVT Newsletters
 - February 2000
 - May 2000
 - August 2000
 - January 2001
- Tailgate Meeting Handouts
 - Pest Management
 - Floor Management
 - Canopy Management
 - Sulfur Management
- Miscellaneous Articles
 - "Grower's Resource for Sustainable Farming," *Practical Winery and Vineyard*, July/August 2000
 - "CCVT Gains Momentum in Local Winegrape Industry," *PRVGA Newsletter*, June 2000
 - "A Look at Sustainable Agriculture," *Vintages Magazine*, Summer 2000
- Positive Points System (Fall 2000 Revision)

II Sample Website Pages

III Sample Database Pages

IV Tailgate Meeting Evaluations

- Evaluation Summaries



Promoting environmentally and economically sustainable vineyard practices on the Central Coast of California.

Congressional Reps Visit Constituent Vineyards

"The Central Coast Vineyard Team should be commended for its efforts to educate..."

Welcome to the Central Coast Vineyard Team website!

CCVT represents a broad-based community partnership of winegrape growers, wineries, consultants farm advisors, environmental interests, and government representatives from Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Monterey counties.

CCVT developed the Positive Points System, the first description of a regionally based, collaboratively designed, sustainable vineyard.

The PPS is a tool to educate and guide growers towards more sustainable and reduced-risk growing practices. It addresses six categories of vineyard operation:

- Pest Management
- Soil Management
- Water Management
- Viticulture Management
- Wine Quality
- Continuing Education

Try it out, or read how others have benefited from using the Positive Points System.

Upcoming Events

- CCVT Forum: Next business meeting will be on April 25, at 9:00 a.m. at the Paraiso Springs Tasting Room. More information to follow soon.
- CCVT Tailgate Meetings: Come learn how CCVT

<http://vineyardteam.org/>

2001 Tailgate Meetings

Come learn how CCVT members incorporate Positive Point System Practices to address irrigation management in their vineyards..

Monterey County
Tuesday, May 24
 Scheid Vineyards
Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Santa Barbara County
Tuesday, May 29
 Meridian's Riverbench Vineyards, Santa Maria
Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

San Luis Obispo County
Thursday, June 7
 Pacific Vineyard Company
Time: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

[Read more >>](#)

Grower Information Exchange and Tour of Lodi-Woodbridge Vineyards

Preliminary Schedule
Thursday, May 31

[Read more >>](#)

Try Out the New CCVT

6/13/01

members incorporate PPS Practices to address alternative
vinerow weed management in their vineyards...

Test your knowledge on
Cover Crops and Nitrogen
Management. There are
four tutorials: Cover Crop
True/False, Cover Crop
Multiple Choice, Nitrogen
True/False, and Nitrogen
Multiple Choice.

[Read more >>](#)

Using Compost in Vineyards

More than 100 people
attended the first round of
CCVT Tailgate Meetings
last summer! The message
was clear: commercial
winegrape growers are
becoming increasingly
interested in long term
soil-building techniques.

[Read more >>](#)

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Question 3:

Which of the following nitrogen-fixing cover crops is most widely adapted to soils of different pH?

- a. Crimson clover
- b. Bur medic
- c. Subterranean clover
- d. Rose clover

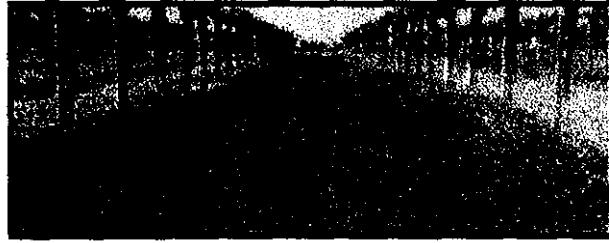
Question 3:

Bur medic is the most popular cover crop among the medics since it usually grows best and reestablishes reliably each year. Bur medic is the most widely adapted of the medics to soils of different pH. Seedlings produce a taproot and are more tolerant of drought than subterranean clover. Bur medic is low growing and can still reseed after frequent, close mowing.

See next slide for photos.

[previous](#) | [next](#)

Question 5:



Bur medic



Most native bur medic has spines on the burs,
but all of the available cultivars are bred to be spineless.

[previous](#) | [next](#)



SELECT CATEGORY

1. Enter Version:

00

2. Select Grower:

Grower No.:

Grower:

Contact Name:

3. Select Block/Vineyard:

Block:

Vineyard:

unnamed

4. Select Category to Enter Results in:

Pest Mgt

Water Mgt

Wine Quality

Soil Mgt

Viticultural

Continuing ED

Cancel



ENTER DATA FOR

A. INSECT MONITORING/MANAGEMENT/CONTROL

Grower No: 1 Grower: Monterey Pacific Block: D Vineyard: unnamed Version: 00

Goal: To use sustainable farming methods that minimize insect buildups or damage to vines and crop, minimizing the need for pesticide treatment. If grapes can be grown without broad-spectrum insecticides, take full points (51) for Section A.

FULL POINTS

- | | | | | |
|----|---|----|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | Are you familiar with the insect pests found (and likely to be found) in your vineyards? | 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 2 | Are you knowledgeable about the life cycles of your vineyard pests? | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 3 | Are you familiar with the natural predators and beneficial insects that prey upon or parasitize your pest species? | 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 4 | Do you track or have access to weather data and degree days during the season? | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 5 | Is there a regular monitoring program in place to detect the presence and determine population dynamics of vineyard pests? | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 6 | When possible, are alternate host plants of a pest species removed (i.e. Bermuda grass and elderberry for sharpshooter leafhoppers; mustard for orange tortrix)? | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 7 | Is the type cover crop chosen according to the nematode situation (i.e. root lesion or citrus nematodes choose blando brome or barley - winter cover crops that inhibit these nematodes)? | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 8 | Are pheromone traps, sticky tape or sticky cards used to trap and monitor insects? | 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 9 | Are sprays based on economic threshold levels and timed to control the appropriate insect brood hatch for maximum effectiveness? | 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 10 | When spraying is needed, do you first opt for the "softer" insecticides or reduced risk materials that are easier on beneficial insects? | 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 11 | Are selective materials used instead of broad-spectrum insecticides? | 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |
| 12 | Are "hot" spots in the vineyard identified and used as indicators for spraying decisions (i.e., spraying on a block by block basis, instead of spraying the entire vineyard)? | 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 0 |

Cancel

Enter Data

CENTRAL COAST VINEYARD TEAM

Promoting sustainable vineyard practices on the Central Coast...

P.O. Box 248 • Atascadero, CA 93423 Tel: 805-462-9431 Fax: 805-462-9439

Email: info@vineyardteam.org Website: www.vineyardteam.org

POSITIVE POINTS SYSTEM REPORT FOR YEAR 2000 MANAGEMENT

All information in this report is meant for the grower only (some sort of anonymity statement).

Please direct any questions or comments to the Central Coast Vineyard Team. Thank you for participating in this important project.

§ § § § §

GROWER INFORMATION

XXXX	XXXX		
Grower First Name		Grower Last Name	
XXXX			
Affiliation (Company/Institution)			
XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXX
Business Address		City	State Zip
XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	
Office Phone	Office Fax	Email	

INFORMATION ON THE BLOCK SCORED

XXXX	XXXX
Vineyard	Block
XXXX	25A00
Physical Address of Vineyard/ Directions	Evaluation Code (ex. 1A00)
50	250
Acreage of Block	Total Acreage at Site
2	

Vine Age Code (See note)

Note: (0 = non-bearing; 1 = 3 - 9 yrs; 2 = 10 - 19 yrs; 3 = 20+ yrs)

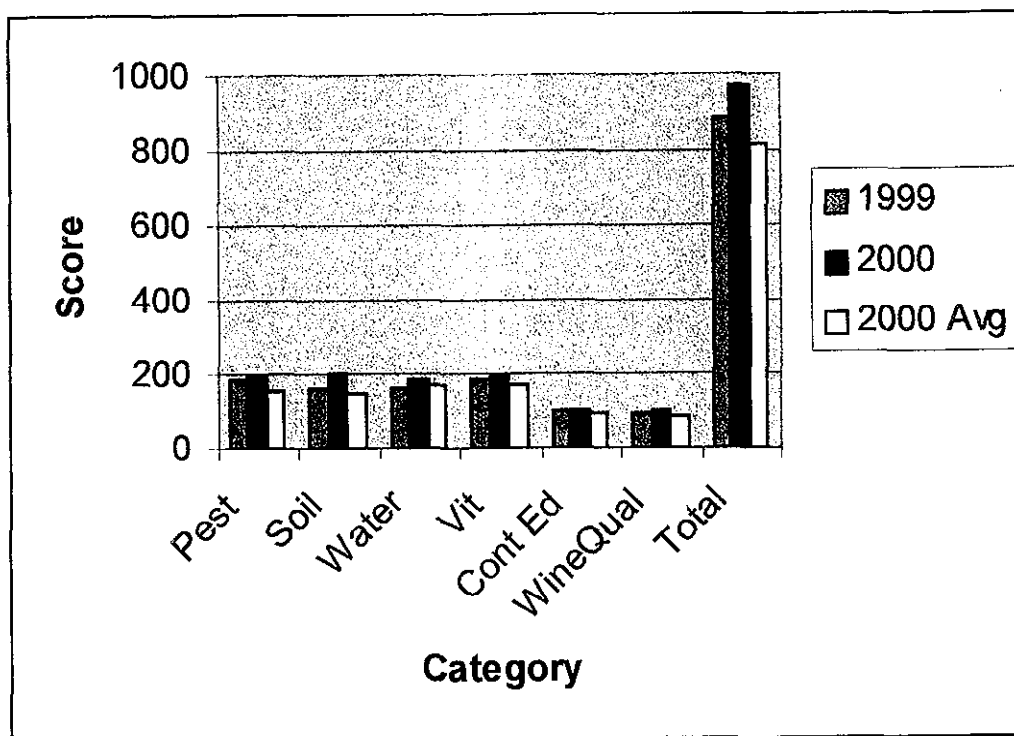
GENERAL RESULTS AND COMPARISONS

PPS Category	Total Points Received for This Block	Total Points Possible	Average Score for All Growers
Pest Management	194	200	157
Soil Management	200	200	146
Water Management	186	200	167
Viticulture Management	192	200	169
Continuing Education	100	100	92
Wine Quality	99	100	89
Total	970	1,000	821

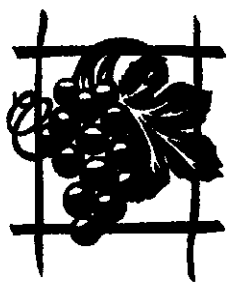
PPS HISTORY FOR THIS BLOCK

PPS Category	Year				
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Pest Management				182	194
Soil Management				159	200
Water Management				164	186
Viticulture Management				186	192
Continuing Education				100	99
Wine Quality				95	99
Total				886	970

COMPARING YOUR SCORE WITH AVERAGE SCORES OF OTHER GROWERS



For a more detailed report as to your data, contact CCVT at 805-462-9431.



CENTRAL COAST VINEYARD TEAM

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE VINEYARD PRACTICES
ON THE CENTRAL COAST...

MEETING EVALUATION FORM (SUMMARY)

Meeting Topic: **Pest Management**

Location: **Los Alamos (SB County), Edna Valley (SLO County), Greenfield (M County)**

Dates: **April 10, 11, 12, 2000**

Attendance Statistics

County	Total Number of Attendees *	Mgr/ Grower	PCA	Other	Non-trad. **	Acres Represented
SB	30	10	9	15	5	15,000 +
SLO	19	8	3	3	4	12,000 +
M	20	5	5	2	4	12,000 +
Total	69	23	17	20	13	39,000 +

* Not all attendees filled out each section of the sign in sheet. The breakdown of attendees and acreage is approximate.

** Approximate number of females and/or hispanics.

Evaluation Sheet Summaries

Not all people completed evaluation sheets – so the totals do not correspond with attendance totals.

The information presented at the meeting was:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
SB	10	6	1	0	17
SLO	8	5	0	0	13
M	6	4	2	0	12
Total	24	15	3	0	42
County	Comments				
SB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Need more examples and pictures of sustainable farming practices. Need more info on plant nutrition and farming practices to improve natural plant immune systems (stems, leaves, roots) – Knowledgeable, thorough and practical – Good – Dave is very knowledgeable but skipped over some important points – Nothing new however 				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Good coordinated presentation on mealybug/ant control. Thanks much to Mary – Appreciated the diverse expertise – Good specific coverage of mealybugs and the powdery mildew program at their vineyards 				
M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Did not cover all areas listed on notice 				

The format of meeting was:

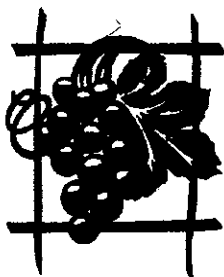
County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
SB	10	5	2	0	17
SLO	3	10	0	0	13
M	4	5	3	0	12
Total	17	20	5	0	42
County	Comments				
SB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tailgate meetings are better than room meetings - Short and concise 				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Pacific Vin Team plus Mary combined to cover the topics pretty well 				
M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maybe put more structure in using point system as a basis - Agenda would help 				

The handouts and materials presented at the meeting were:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
SB	7	10	0	0	17
SLO	6	7	0	0	13
M	7	3	2	0	12
Total	20	20	2	0	42
County	Comments				
SB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More 				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Haven't had time to look at them 				
M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Handed out at end of meeting - None handed out until the end 				

Overall, I would rate the meeting as:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
SB	8	8	1	0	17
SLO	5	8	0	0	13
M	5	5	2	0	12
Total	18	21	3	0	42
County	Comments				
SB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good information for layman - Good speaking - More organization and specifics would be helpful 				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We could have started a bit earlier and maybe have talked more 				
M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is not substitute for meeting in the vineyard where subject matter is at hand - More field identification would have been helpful 				



CENTRAL COAST VINEYARD TEAM

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE VINEYARD PRACTICES
ON THE CENTRAL COAST...

MEETING EVALUATION FORM (SUMMARY)

Meeting Topic: **Reduced Risk Floor Management**

Location: **Soledad (M County), Santa Ynez (SB County), Paso Robles (SLO County)**

Dates: **June 13, 14, 15, 2000**

Attendance Statistics

County	Total Number of Attendees *	Mgr/ Grower	PCA	Other	Non-trad. **	Acres Represented
M	25	14	4	5	3	33,000
SB	20	8	2	10	4	6,000
SLO	82	62	10	10	11	11,000
Total	127	84	16	25	18	49,000

* Not all attendees filled out each section of the sign in sheet. The breakdown of attendees and acreage is approximate.

** Approximate number of females and/or hispanics.

Evaluation Sheet Summaries

Not all people completed evaluation sheets – so the totals do not correspond with attendance totals.

The information presented at the meeting was:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	3	3	0	0	6
SB	5	2	0	0	7
SLO	28	8	0	0	36
Total	36	13	0	0	49
County	Comments				
M	– Good material and presentation				
SLO	– Some disagreements – I appreciated hearing specifics concerning cover crops being used locally – From grower with experience – It seems very interesting for growers and environmental care				

The format of meeting was:

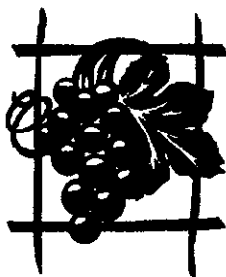
County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	2	4	0	0	6
SB	5	2	0	0	7
SLO	23	13	0	0	36
Total	30	19	0	0	49
County	Comments				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Excellent for the growers necessity (timing and location) – Being able to see what was being grown was helpful 				

The handouts and materials presented at the meeting were:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	1	3	1	0	5
SB	4	3	0	0	7
SLO	19	14	0	0	33
Total	24	20	0	0	46
County	Comments				
M	– Have not reviewed them yet, No comment				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Haven't had time to review them yet – Readable by non-farmers – Thanks 				

Overall, I would rate the meeting as:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	2	4	0	0	6
SB	4	3	0	0	7
SLO	26	10	0	0	36
Total	32	17	0	0	49
County	Comments				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Thanks – Good chance to see the evolution of the vineyard and success Pebble has had – It's good to get grower/ manager outside in a informal setting – This was informative because the matter of time expectations were discussed – Thank you for the great job – Keep up the great work team – Would be useful to have people introduce themselves at the start of the meeting – I would like to see more of these and will stay in touch regarding other educational opportunities – The speakers know the topic really well from experience and also theory information 				



CENTRAL COAST VINEYARD TEAM

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE VINEYARD PRACTICES
ON THE CENTRAL COAST...

MEETING EVALUATION FORM (SUMMARY)

Meeting Topic: Reduced Risk Canopy Management

Location: Soledad (M County), Santa Maria (SB County), Paso Robles (SLO County)

Dates: August 8, 15, 18, 2000

Attendance Statistics

County	Total Number of Attendees *	Mgr/ Grower	PCA	Other	Non-trad. **	Acres Represented
M	25	18	2	2	0	17,000
SB	22	20	3	1	3	7,000
SLO	86	75	5	5	15	15,000
Total	133	113	15	8	18	39,000

* Not all attendees filled out each section of the sign in sheet. The breakdown of attendees and acreage is approximate.

** Approximate number of females and/or hispanics.

Evaluation Sheet Summaries

Not all people completed evaluation sheets – so the totals do not correspond with attendance totals.

The information presented at the meeting was:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	10	4	1	0	15
SB	7	1	0	0	8
SLO	19	12	0	0	31
Total	36	17	1	0	54
County	Comments				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Handouts are very much appreciated. – Dokoozlian was a good presenter of current material. – Recommend differentiating between young and mature vineyards – Very knowledgeable speakers. 				

The format of meeting was:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	5	8	2	0	15
SB	7	1	0	0	8
SLO	19	12	0	0	31
Total	31	21	2	0	54
County	Comments				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lecture followed by demonstration is best way to learn. - Opening for questions enhances transfer of knowledge. 				

The handouts and materials presented at the meeting were:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	6	9	0	0	15
SB	5	3	0	0	8
SLO	18	12	0	0	30
Total	29	24	0	0	53
County	Comments				
SB	- Nice way to keep track of what was presented.				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thanks for the handouts they're great. - Haven't had time to access 				

Overall, I would rate the meeting as:

County	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
M	8	6	1	0	15
SB	7	1	0	0	8
SLO	19	12	0	0	31
Total	34	19	1	0	54
County	Comments				
M	- The Best Yet!				
SB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I enjoyed this. - Many interesting ideas presented. 				
SLO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Great Job. - Thank You! - Very understandable and practical. - I liked the practical applications. - EXCELLENT! 				